

Poletown Historic District  
Guarantee Trust and Loan Company, Ltd.  
2126 E. Canal Boulevard  
Detroit  
Wayne  
MI

HABS No. MI-275-4

HABS  
MICH.  
82-DETRO  
30-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON DC, 20240

STATE Michigan	COUNTY Wayne	TOWN OR VICINITY Detroit
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Poletown Historic District Guarantee Trust and Loan Company, Ltd. (Building Facade)		HABS NO. MT-275-4
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Dennison Bookkeeping Service		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 2126 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1932 (Clare Dennison, Owner)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The building is primarily significant for its Art Deco architectural style. No other similar commercial structure has been found in this general area.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Art Deco.		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Masonry wall construction.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTED) Refer to attached floor plans on Page 3.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The facade is the most notable aspect of the structure. It is composed of carved limestone and large commercial sash.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) A large vault on the first floor is the most notable interior feature.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES No major alterations have been made.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Dennison Bookkeeping Service was the most recent occupant of the building. It is presently scheduled for demolition in 1981.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Theron Francis, William Kessler and Associates, Inc.		DATE July 20, 1981

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

POLETOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT (Guarantee  
Trust and Loan Company, Ltd.)  
HABS No. MI-275-4 Page No. 2

HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE: Guarantee Trust and Loan Company, Ltd.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

I. Manuscripts and Documents

1. Poletown A National Register Physical Eligibility Investigation, William Kessler and Associates. Detroit: (Unpublished manuscript) 1980.
2. Environmental Impact Statement Central Industrial Park, City of Detroit Community and Economic Development Department. Detroit: 1980.

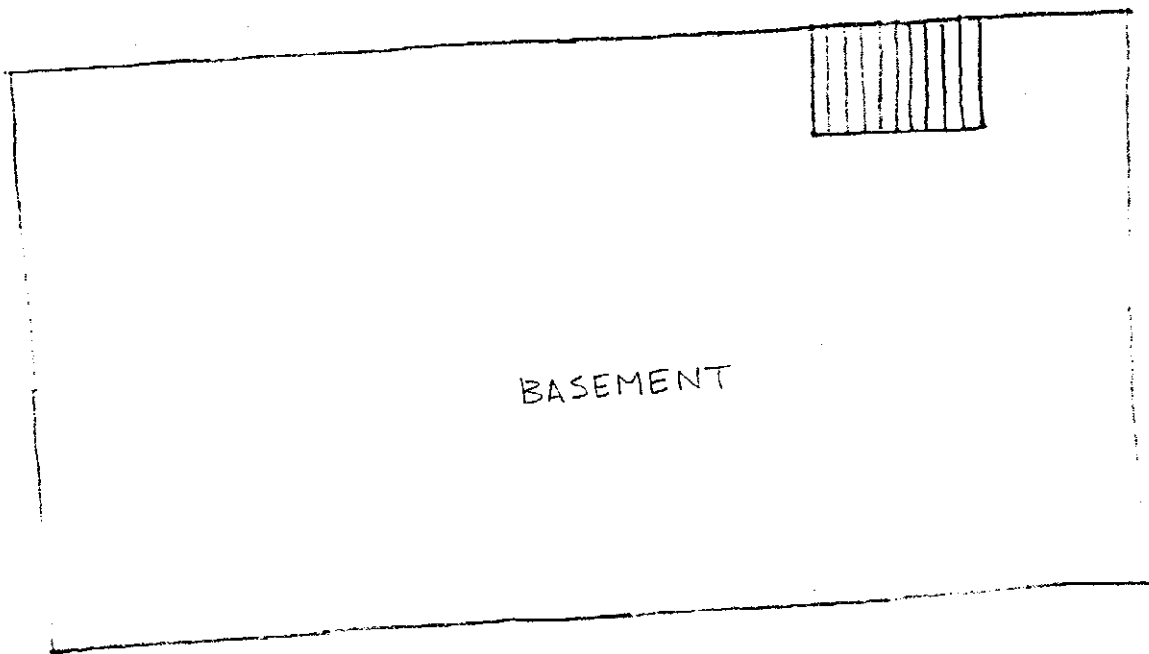
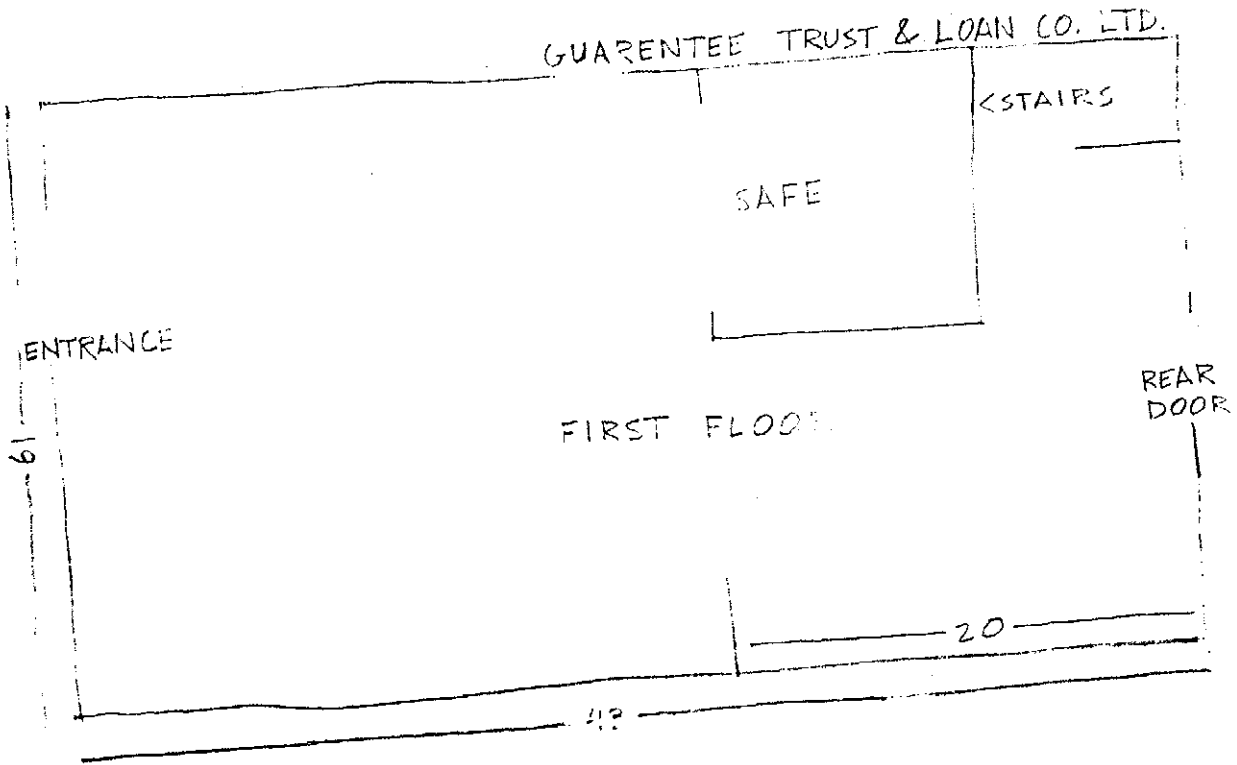
II. Reference Material

1. City Directory, R.L. Polk and Company, Publisher. Detroit: (Vols. 1925-1974)

III. Interview

Clare Dennison, Owner.

EAST SIDE BOULEVARD



1. Property Name

Guarantee Trust & Loan Company

2. Location

Street Address: 2126 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan

The Guarantee Trust & Loan Building is located on the east side of East Grand Boulevard between Kanter Avenue and Piquette Street. It is north of the Ford Freeway (I-94) and south of Detroit's Central Industrial Park.

3. Classification

Building

4. Ownership

Clare Dennison

5. Representation on Existing Surveys

None

6. Description

The Guarantee Trust & Loan Company building has a Neo-classical designed facade with influences of the Chicago commercial style. Its granite facade has a bracketed cornice, one large plate glass window to one side, and a doorway to the other. It is a single-story rectangular structure with a basement. The ground floor contains three rooms, one of which is a vault. The structure also has a basement. There is a second entryway at the rear. The building is flanked on both sides by other commercial structures. To its rear are residential buildings.

7. Significance

The Guarantee Trust and Loan Company building is solely significant for its unique architectural style.

The Guarantee Trust and Loan Company was founded in 1915. The subject structure was constructed in 1932 by Samuel L. May to house the Guarantee Trust and Loan Company and the facilities of a lawyer. In 1939 Joseph Ritzler

acquired the property. After World War II, Clare Dennison inherited the property from his son, who died of war injuries. Since then, Clare Dennison has operated a small bookkeeping service.